

CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE

## WAR SERVICES COMMITTEE

and

MOTION PICTURE SECTION

### National War Finance Committee

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN MOTION  
PICTURE WAR SERVICES COMMITTEE—

As members of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee we now must prepare for the forthcoming Sixth Victory Loan, and I am taking this opportunity of appealing to you to join with your fellow members to make this tremendous job a complete success once again.

You will be interested to know that a special two-reel subject has been produced by Warner Bros. Studios, through the co-operation of the Hollywood Motion Picture Industry, for the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee as part of our contribution to the Sixth Victory Loan Campaign.

Every showman will welcome the box-office appeal and entertainment value of this novel and unusual two-reel subject, entitled *THE SHINING FUTURE*, running time about twenty minutes. The cast includes a galaxy of top stars secured through the co-operation of the Screen Actors Guild. All Artists, Directors and Studio personnel contributed their services and facilities at no charge to the Government and to the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee.

In addition there will be a single reel subject entitled *THE FIFTH CHRISTMAS*, produced overseas by the Film Units of the Canadian Army, the R.C.A.F., and the Royal Canadian Navy. The running time of this subject is ten minutes. This also is an unusual short and will have tremendous local appeal as many of the scenes include closeups of our fighting men on the many fronts overseas and many

members of the audience will see friends and relatives in this picture.

Complete details regarding both of these subjects will be given in Canadian Motion Picture Digest and the Canadian Film Weekly together with many more details of the forthcoming campaign.

Bookings are now being set up to afford the most complete coverage that any film has ever received in Canada and you will no doubt shortly receive booking notification and shipping instructions from your local Warner Bros. Exchange. These two short subjects are furnished to you free of charge. There are also a complete set of mats available, gratis, on request through Warner Bros. Exchanges. Our Publicity Committee is preparing a special press book covering both of these subjects as well as a number of good selling and publicity ideas for the theatres participating in the Sixth Victory Loan Campaign. National press and radio publicity will be covered by the National War Finance Committee Publicity Section direct from Ottawa.

We have a great industry in Canada. We also have a great responsibility, and I urge you as fellow members of this Industry to get behind your local committee and your fellow showmen in making our record in the Sixth Victory Loan an outstanding success.

Yours sincerely,  
(Signed)

J. J. FITZGIBBONS,  
National Chairman.

## The Lady and the Monster

Erich von Stroheim, Richard Arlen, Vera Hruba Ralston, Helen Vinson, Sydney Blackmer and Juanita Quigly. BOOK IT NOW.

A thriller of thrillers from Republic through Empire-Universal in Canada. With Quigly. BOOK IT NOW.



# "THAT OLD M-G-MAGIC!"



**"AMERICA"**  
(Technicolor)  
As BIG as  
its name!

**"GASLIGHT"**

Preview fore-  
casts terrific  
box-office hit!

**"THE WHITE  
CLIFFS"**

It is a land-  
mark in film  
annals!

**"TWO SISTERS  
AND A SAILOR"**

Watch: Biggest  
sensation in years!

**"KISMET"**  
(Technicolor)  
New glory  
for the  
screen!

Just a few of the M-G-M  
Previews that keep Holly-  
wood busy these nights!  
It's *future* joy from the hit-  
happy outfit that's giving  
Showmen the pay-off prod-  
uct *today* with hits like: "A  
Guy Named Joe," "Thou-  
sands Cheer," "Madame  
Curie," "Girl Crazy,"  
"Lassie Come Home,"  
"Broadway Rhythm," "See  
Here, Private Hargrove,"  
"Song of Russia," "The  
Heavenly Body," "Lost  
Angel" and more M-G-  
Movies - for - the - millions!



# Col. John A. Cooper Resigns



COL. JOHN A. COOPER

After 23 years of service to the Canadian Motion Picture Industry, Colonel Cooper has resigned as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, ending his official connection.

## Jolson to Produce

One of Columbia's most ambitious productions, "Burlesque," starring Rita Hayworth, will see Al Jolson making his debut as a picture producer as part of a term deal.

## Will Hays Delivers Annual Report

"Fortunately for the cause of liberty," said Will H. Hays, president of Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America in his annual report, issued last week, "our motion picture industry and the free people to whom it belongs have chosen the voluntary way, rather than the way of compulsion, to establish channels through which the film's power can flow freely for the benefit of mankind.

"Where true liberty thrives, no good of man or society can languish. The way of the voluntary is, indeed, the way of all that is characteristically human in life. Because it developed under the auspices of freedom, ruling itself to maximize that freedom, the motion picture industry had the will and strength to mobilize every facility at its

(Continued on Page 14)

## Quits as Distrib Ass'n Chief After Twenty-Three Years

Colonel John A. Cooper, for 23 years chairman of the Directorate of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, tendered his resignation at the annual meeting in the administrative offices of that organization last week.

## Odeon, FPCC Bid For Ham. United

Canada's two leading motion picture theatre circuits entered into sharp competition for the holdings of Hamilton United Theatres Limited, the Capitol and Palace theatres of Hamilton, Ontario, both first-class houses. They are operated by Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited

(Continued on Page 4)

## Ontario Premier Favors War Pix

"I hold very strong views on the value of up-to-date, vivid pictures of what our men in uniform are doing and what they are facing," Premier George Drew told the Ontario Legislature last week. "There should be more extensive use of the camera by a Canadian organization to

(Continued on Page 4)

## Post-War Theatre Sites Purchased

Evidence of the coming post-war drive for more theatres in the Dominion is being revealed in reports of a local nature.

In Midland, Ontario, the town council is preparing to enter into an agreement with the Midland Operating Company, in which H. L. Nathanson is interested, for

(Continued on Page 11)

## Sandwell CBC Gov'r

B. K. Sandwell, editor of Saturday Night, has been appointed a Governor of the CBC, filling the post left vacant by the death of N. L. Nathanson.



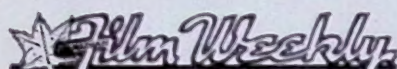
Some lightning caricatures of well-known film and theatre men. They were made on the spot by W. B. Mac of the Toronto Evening Telegram art staff at the party for Archie Laurie and were first shown in that newspaper.

## Citizenship Award To Mrs. Moore

Mrs. B. K. Moore, for 27 years manager of Moore's Theatre, Grimsby, Ontario, was awarded the Good Citizenship Medal, which is presented annually, by the Lions Club.

Nominations for the award are made by residents and organizations at large. Mrs. Moore, an outstanding citizen, was the most popular recipient of the award to date. She is extremely popular in the industry.





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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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## Another Blast at Us

Mayor Raynault of Montreal, speaking in connection with the killing of a policeman by two youths aged 15 and 17, asked theatre operators in that city to stop showing films "depicting criminals as eventual heroes or making a success of crime." He spoke "on behalf of the people of Montreal" and said that "I will make it my business to go to a theatre and interrupt the picture if necessary."

This is a serious matter. The mayor's remarks will be accepted as applying to theatres generally, for that is usually the case when motion pictures are attacked.

There are a number of answers to the mayor's position. Two are close to home.

In a recent editorial, the Rouyn-Noranda Press said about juvenile delinquency in Quebec:

"Since children have so long been banned from movies in Quebec, the theatres can hardly be blamed for such conditions in this province. Perhaps this ban is having the opposite effect on growing children by depriving them of the opportunity of amusement and leaving them to their own devices as they play on the streets without restraint or control, forming into gangs and engaging in mischief and unfortunate criminal escapades which too often get them into trouble and start them into lives of crime."

In Quebec children under sixteen are banned from movie houses. Their ideas and values are picked up elsewhere.

## Father Flanagan in Montreal

It happens that the famous Father Flanagan of Boy's Town was in Montreal about the time the mayor made his remarks. Father Flanagan visited the boys in jail. His life is devoted to correcting the evils of juvenile delinquency and he addressed a meeting at His Majesty's Theatre, sponsored by the Optimist Club as part of Juvenile Delinquency Week.

Where did such an authority as Father Flanagan lay the blame? Here, in his own words, is where he placed it:

"Rotten filthy politics are responsible for juvenile delinquency. They could clean up a city in 24 hours if they wanted and if I was mayor of a city for that length of time, I could do it."

He repeated his statement that "There is no such thing as a bad boy." If you taught them to love and have faith in God they would not be bad. People laughed at this, he said. One Montreal paper went as far as to condemn a moving picture of Boy's Town without giving him a chance to explain the picture.

## Guarding Against Bad Ideas

As for movies "depicting criminals as eventual heroes and making a success of crime," the Production Code of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., states:

1. No picture shall be produced which will lower the moral standards of those who see it. Hence the sympathy of the audience should never be thrown to the side of crime, wrongdoing, evil or sin.

2. Correct standards of life, subject only to the requirements of drama and entertainment, shall be presented.

3. Law, natural or human, shall not be ridiculed, nor shall sympathy be created for its violation.

Joining with this organization for industry self-regulation are a number of outside bodies whose opinions are respected and followed wherever possible. There is the Legion of Decency, founded and ruled over by Catholic

(Continued on Page 14)

## Odeon, FPCC Bid Col. J. A. Cooper For Ham. United Resigns Post

(Continued from Page 3)  
through Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Limited.

The price offered by Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Limited is \$711,881. Famous Players was not aware that offers would be entertained until March 23 and has since made an offer which J. J. Fitzgibbons, its president, says is equivalent to the sum of \$831,931. The offer is conditional upon Famous Players being able to take possession of the property no later than September, 1946.

The length of the present agreement is a matter of dispute. According to a letter to the shareholders from Paul Nathanson, president of Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Limited, Famous Players "learned by agreement dated the ninth day of October, 1942, Odeon Theatres of Canada Ltd. were entitled to possession and operation of your theatre properties until Aug. 31, 1951. Therefore, it is suggested that Famous Players Canadian Corp., Ltd., made their offer for the purpose of inducing you not to accept our offer, because, having knowledge of the facts, they attached to their offer a condition the performance of which is impossible to your company."

In the letter to the shareholders in which he had made the offer for FPCC, J. J. Fitzgibbons described the present deal with the Nathanson interests as having "some two years and five months to run," suggesting that it is a five-year agreement which expires at the end of August, 1946.

## Ontario Premier Favors War Pix

(Continued from Page 3)  
portray the activities of our men in uniform."

The Premier expressed his opinion during a discussion of motion pictures when Censor Board estimates were being considered. E. B. Joliffe, CCF Leader, had asked why the USA series, "Why We Fight," had not been shown in Ontario.

Provincial Treasurer Leslie M. Frost explained that the Government did not give any direction to the Censor Board about barring pictures. He believed that it was a matter of distribution and promised to check up on it.

C. A. Strange, CCF member from Brantford, thought the Board could use a child psychologist. Pictures shown in Ontario had been banned in England because of their possible effect on the emotions of children.

(Continued from Page 3)  
Films; Louis Rosenfeld, Columbia Pictures; Wolfe Cohen, Vitagraph; Syd Samson, Twentieth Century-Fox; Harry Allen, PRC, and Harry Kaufman, Monogram Pictures. Ed H. Wells was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

In addition to his lengthy service as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, which controls film distribution in the Dominion, Colonel Cooper was active in a number of interests, not all related directly to the industry.

He was very active as a member of the Motion Picture War Services Committee and was chairman of the film and theatre section of the recent Red Cross drive. He is president of the Dominion Fire Prevention Association.

Colonel Cooper was one of the founders and first presidents of the Canadian Club of Toronto and was a director of the Canadian National Exhibition for seven years. He is vice-president of the Tandy Advertising Agency, Ltd. Originally a journalist of distinction in Canada, he is a past president of the Canadian Press Association. In 1919, after his return from overseas service during the first World War, he was appointed director of the Canadian Bureau of Information in New York by the then Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, resigning to return to Canada in 1921.

Educated at the University of Toronto, where he obtained his B.A. and LL.B., he joined the Maclean Publishing Company in 1892, became editor of the Canadian Magazine in 1895 and later held the same post from 1906 to 1915 with the Canadian Courier.

When the first World War broke out Colonel Cooper, who had been an officer of the Queen's Own Regiment up till then, raised the 198th Battalion in Toronto, known popularly as the Canadian Buffs. After taking his battalion to France, he served on the headquarters staff of the Fourth Canadian Infantry Brigade and saw service in France, Belgium and Germany.

Colonel Cooper has many friendships in the industry and played an important part in the rise of the motion picture to public popularity and official recognition.

He will not be succeeded, as the office which he held has been discontinued. It is hoped, however, that he will retain the same lively interest in the welfare of the industry he helped so much.



**MR. BIG**

**PROVES  
HE IS**

**TOP  
MAN**

**AT  
SMASHING  
THE RECORD  
OF HIS  
PREVIOUS  
PICTURES!**

THAT TERRIFIC TEAM OF  
**"MISTER BIG" AND "TOP MAN"**  
WITH A GORGEOUS NEW SONG AND  
HEART RAVE!

**DONALD  
O'CONNOR**  
**PEGGY  
RYAN**  
**ANN  
BLYTH**

**CHIPOFF  
THE OLD  
BLOCK**

and introducing  
**Quiz Kid Joel  
Kupperman**

with **Helen Vinson**  
**Arthur Treacher** **Helen Broderick**  
**Patric Knowles** **J. Edward Bromberg**

**Songs!** IT'S MIGHTY NICE TO HAVE MET YOU • LOVE IS LIKE MUSIC  
GOTTA GIVE MY FEET A BREAK • SPERLING PREP... and plenty more!

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*Now at Your*

**EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE**



**2 MILLION DOLLARS IN  
STARS FOR YOUR SCREEN  
AT NO COST  
TO YOU!**

THE HOLLYWOOD  
MOTION PICTURE  
INDUSTRY presents

## **The Shining Future**

produced at WARNER BROS. STUDIO with  
OLIVE BLAKENEY • JACK CARSON  
BENNY GOODMAN and his ORCHESTRA  
BING CROSBY • DEANNA DURBIN  
CARY GRANT • HARRY JAMES  
JIMMY LYDON • IRENE MANNING  
HERBERT MARSHALL • DENNIS MORGAN  
HAROLD (Gildersleeve) PEARY  
CHARLES RUGGLES • FRANK SINATRA

THESE NOTABLE SUBJECTS  
WILL BE SUPPLIED WITHOUT  
CHARGE TO ALL THEATRES  
IN CANADA AND EXHIBITED  
TO PROMOTE PUBLIC  
INTEREST IN THE 6th  
VICTORY LOAN!

*Running Time*

THE SHINING FUTURE 20 min.  
THE FIFTH CHRISTMAS 10 min.

... A MILLION  
DOLLAR THRILL!

## **The FIFTH CHRISTMAS**

Snapshots of the boys over  
there... Hundreds of Canadian  
mothers, fathers, brothers,  
sisters and sweethearts will  
eagerly search for a glimpse  
... and see... a loved one!...

Consult your **WARNER BROS. EXCHANGE** for dates in your theatre!

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THE GREATEST MYSTERY ROMANCE SINCE "REBECCA"  
Is Coming From  
*Macardle*  
*Dorothy*  
**Paramount**

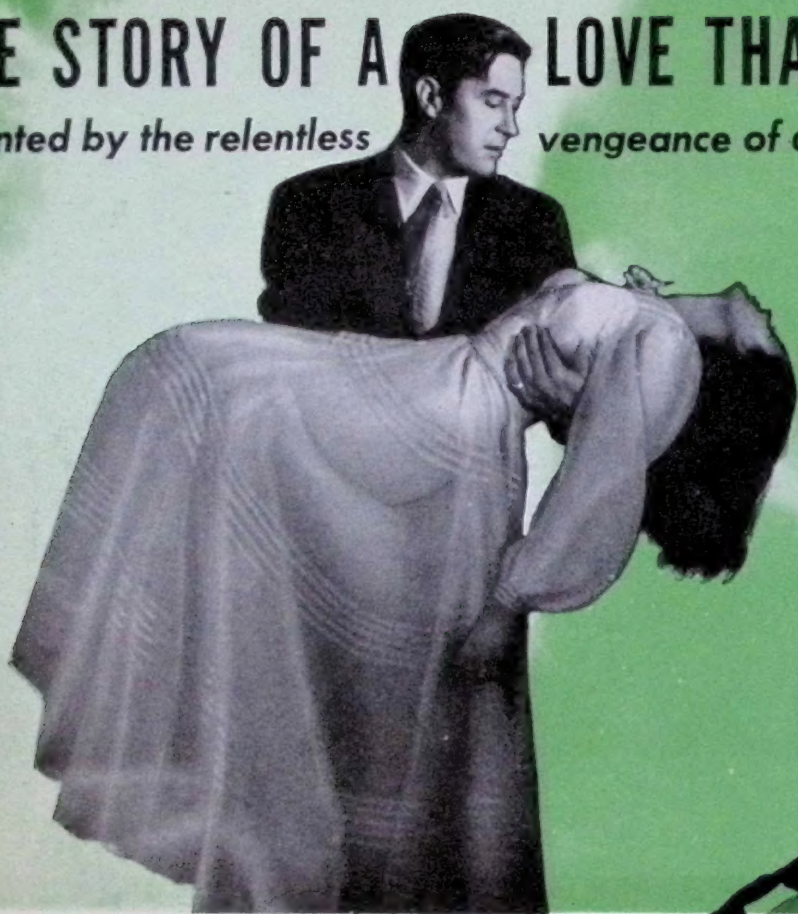
# THE UNINVITED

*A.D.G.*  
*A story of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances*



# THE STORY OF A LOVE THAT IS OUT OF THIS WORLD

*Haunted by the relentless vengeance of an amazing spectre of the past!*



# THE UNWINDING



Starring

**RAY MILLAND · RUTH HUSSEY · DONALD CRISP**

with **Cornelia Otis Skinner** · And Introducing **Gail Russell**



From the Famous  
Best-Seller and  
Liberty Magazine  
Sensation . . . . .

LD

# UNINVITED

Paramount will  
advertise it in

**LIFE**

and 14 other great  
magazines.

Do you believe there  
are houses filled with  
unseen evil?

Do you believe that  
the cold hate of an evil  
soul can materialize on  
earth and threaten the  
destruction of a lovely  
young girl?

Do you believe that  
the spirit of a mother can  
stay behind to guard her  
daughter from the ma-  
lignance of the un-dead?



You will when you see  
Paramount's thrilling picturization  
of Dorothy Macardie's  
exciting novel of the supernatural



**"The Uninvited"**  
A Paramount Picture Starring  
RAY MILLAND RUTH HUSSEY DONALD CRISP  
and Frank Parks  
and Neil Russell

And  
Screenland  
Says:  
"WATCH HER!"



This advance dummy of a pictorial spread in one of America's lead-  
ing picture magazines heralds a tremendous press reception for Para-  
mount's greatest player discovery since Sonny Tufts and Alan Ladd. . . . .



-BLEED -

-TRIM SIZE -



# SCREENLAND

## SALUTES GAIL RUSSELL!

She's sensational in "The Uninvited,"  
the greatest "find" in years.  
Paramount has picked a winner in  
this beautiful young girl. Watch her!





Ginger Rogers (above) was also, 122" small, in the net at Paramount. Gail played a small part in Rogers' picture, "Sally in the Sun." Since Gail with Donald Crisp in "The Uninvited," called it "speed" drama with insurance in Gail's first picture.



Below with Charles Coburn (in whose picture they, "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," Gail will next appear).





THE REPORTER<sup>††</sup>

THE *Film* <sup>\*</sup>  
DAILY

MOTION PICTURE <sup>†</sup>  
DAILY

*Distinguished  
Product  
says the Trade Press*

Boxoffice<sup>\*</sup>

VARIETY<sup>\*</sup>

**"A Film Possessing  
Class & Distinction**

**Rich in Drama  
and Suspense."**<sup>\*</sup>

*"Seldom has a chil-  
der been produced  
with so much refine-  
ment and subtlety."*<sup>\*</sup>

*"Distinguished product,  
rich in the values that count  
for entertainment."*<sup>†</sup>

**"SUPERB GHOST  
DRAMA; SURE OF  
TOP GROSSES."**<sup>††</sup>

*"One of the most unusual pic-  
tures to emerge from any studio  
... Gail Russell displays dra-  
matic talents which assure her a  
place in the star firmament."*<sup>\*</sup>

Directed by  
**LEWIS ALLEN**  
Screen Play by Dodie  
Smith and Frank Partos

Paramount's

# The Uninvited

Another Miracle In The Miracle 5

**"THE MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK"**

**"THE UNINVITED"**

**"STANDING ROOM ONLY"**

**"HENRY ALDRICH, BOY SCOUT"**

**"TIMBER QUEEN"**



## Post-War Theatre Sites Purchased

(Continued from Page 3)

the purchase of a site on which a \$25,000 theatre will be erected one year from the date building restrictions are lifted.

The purchase price of the site is \$6,000 cash and it is to be forfeited, the property to revert to the municipality, if the theatre is not erected in the time stipulated. The purchaser asked that two years after restrictions were lifted be allowed for the erection but this was refused.

Midland, with a population of 7,000, has one theatre, the Capitol, which seats 760 and operates six days. It is owned by the purchaser of the site.

It is known that Famous Players had everything ready but a federal permit for the building of a theatre in Prince Rupert, B.C. This was two years ago. Prince Rupert people agreed that the lack of a second theatre was a hardship for everyone and requested the permit.

Last week it was reported from Halifax that Odeon Theatres had purchased a site in Halifax but there was no confirmation of this.

Several theatres are being erected now under permit and a number of sites for post-war building have been bought lately.

Eastview, Ontario, city council, has sold a site for the building of a theatre to William D'Aoust, contractor, for \$1,800. The building of the house must start six months after a federal permit is granted and there is no restriction on any other person to prevent the erection of other theatres.

### Fourth for 'Children'

Monogram's "Where Are Your Children" is in its fourth week at the Plaza, Vancouver.

## VOCALITE SCREENS

Five times more sound permeability.

One-third more light.

Vocalite Sound Screen is the result of a series of intensive and costly experiments which have resulted in the production of the finest sound screen made. Flexible plastic coated, flameproof.

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COMPANY LIMITED  
187 VICTORIA STREET TORONTO 207 BUREAU STREET MONTREAL



### Coplan Cops Some Nods

It seems that the British trade press tattletails had at our Mr. Dave Coplan when he arrived as UA's top man over there. "Tatler," who scribbles "Wardour Street Gossip" in the Daily Film Renter, wrote that he "Found David Coplan, the new United Artists chief, a very likeable personality. . . Here's wishing him a happy and successful association with this country."

"Onlooker," who wanders "Up and Down the Street" for The Cinema, devoted plenty of agate lines to the immigrant from Dundas Square, announcing right off that "the trade is going to like him" and that he "will be a valuable link between this country and Canada."

After quoting Dave's praise of the National Film Board and the Film Section of the Ministry of Information, "Onlooker" wrote:

"But I have wandered away from Mr. Coplan himself to his work. I haven't told you that this young, vigorous and vital executive started in the Canadian industry 27 years ago and has been working in films ever since."

"I haven't told you that there was an air raid here the day he landed, and another one the next night, but that he slept through the second one."

"I haven't told you of the engaging modesty with which he discusses every subject—even including his films."

Dave arrived as temporary head of UA in Britain and was immediately voted permanent incumbent by the domestic setup.

### Ycleptomania

Those Calgary Eigans can't seem to avoid nomenclatural snags. Recently I told you how Sam Sternberg was passed off as Pete to Harry Bercovitch of Regina. Now Carl Egan, son of Pete, just got himself disentangled.

Our Carl Egan was nominated for a Quigley Award about the same time as a Sioux City, Iowa, showman named Carl Eagan. A while later the USA Carl got nominated again and to avoid confusion, used his full name—William Carl Eagan. Calgary's Carl, who had thought of the same thing for future use, now finds himself playing musical chairs in print. You see, his unabbreviated collection of tags is William Carl Egan.

Maybe there ought to be a conciliation board to settle those things. Or maybe Calgary's Carl ought to adopt some distinctive nom de plumage—such as Chief Running Pictures.

### Random Memos

Paul Maynard, publicized as a prize pigeon in gin rummy circles, protests vehemently and tells me that he trimmed Mark Plottel for \$3.40 at the Laurie stag. . . Jack Alexander, manager of the Brock, runs a smokes-for-soldiers fund. He got written and financial support for it from a neighbor, who wrote that "I love to see the pictures shown in your theatre, and I am rarely if ever disappointed," etc. That's the kind of patrons to have. . . Jake Smith, ill for a while, is around and about again. . . Fine joke was revealed in Montreal court. Two employees of Dorval airfield broadcast a false message about a crash landing for a crippled plane supposed to be headed for the field. Emergency squads, firefighters and ambulances rushed to the landing strip.

### It Came Up Heads, That's All

Jesse L. Lasky, one of the greatest names of the business, was refreshingly honest in an interview with Jack Karr of the Toronto Star. Said Lasky:

"It would be proper, I suppose, for me to say that in those early days of films we pioneers knew that the movies would develop into the great industry we have today. Honestly, we didn't; hadn't the slightest idea. Even now I often feel that we have reached the pinnacle and that there is almost nowhere for us to go. The size of the screen seems to be about right, after much experimentation with larger models, so the only things we have to look forward to seem to be three-dimensional pictures, universal color, and eventually films with olfactory effects. But who knows? In 1914, I would have been one of the first to laugh at the notion that pictures might some day talk."



## ENTHUSIASTIC EXHIBITORS

They Play

**P R C**

Pictures

★

### CAREER GIRL

Frances Langford  
(Hear her on your radio)

Edward Norris  
Iris Adrian  
Craig Wood

### MEN ON HER MIND

Mary Beth Hughes  
Ted Wood

A must for all theatres  
A comedy with music

### THE GIRL FROM MONTEREY

Armida  
Edgar Kennedy  
Jack LaRue  
Veda Ann Borg

**P R C**  
DELIVERS

**Producers Releasing Corporation**

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Executive Offices:  
277 Victoria St., Toronto, 2, Ont.





**Thornton Wilder's**

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Novel

## THE BRIDGE OF SAN LUIS REY

ON THE screen this famed literary work has become a moving panorama of emotional experience. The moods and personalities presented are varied and very human and the story is distinctly unusual.

Lynn Bari, Akim Tamiroff, Francis Lederer, Nazimova and Donald Woods are some of the players who help make "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" an outstanding release from United Artists.







# Reviews



From Film Daily, New York

## 'Song of Russia'

with Robert Taylor, Susan Peters  
M-G-M 107 Mins.  
LOVE TALE TOLD AGAINST A WAR BACKGROUND SHOULD APPEAL ESPECIALLY TO WOMEN; MUSIC IMPORTANT.

In a Russian setting Joseph Pasternak's newest production tells a dramatic love story that will prove a solid hit with the women despite its relation to the war. The film has been produced with all the classy trimmings that characterize a Pasternak offering. The producer has endowed the film with so many sterling production values that it can't miss being strong popular entertainment.

In this tender love tale Robert Taylor and Susan Peters are thrown together to the delight of the women. Taylor, a famous American conductor, meets Miss Peters, a Russian pianist, during a tour of the Soviet. They fall in love immediately and get married. Then suddenly war strikes to shatter their happiness. In the confusion of war, husband and wife are separated. The footage from then on recounts Taylor's efforts to find Miss Peters. It is a touching, heart-breaking search. The windup finds Taylor and Miss Peters safely in America. Miss Peters' fate is carefully kept from the audience until the very last scene of the film.

The picture widens its audience by giving music an important place in the story. Nothing less could have been expected of a Pasternak film. The score consists of music from Tschalkowsky and modern Russian composers adapted for the screen by Herbert Stothart and conducted by Albert Coates. Jerome Kern and E. Y. Harburg have augmented the musical appeal of the film by contributing a song called "And Russia Is Her Name." Numerous orchestral scenes have been incorporated into the footage. Its music is one of the film's most potent points.

Taylor and Miss Peters enacted the leading roles capably, the latter gives a sensitive performance that will bring moisture to many eyes. John Hodiak, Robert Benchley, Felix Bressart are a few of the others who perform stalwartly.

CAST: Robert Taylor, Susan Peters, John Hodiak, Robert Benchley, Felix Bressart, Michael Chekhov, Darryl Hickman, Jacqueline White, California Junior Symphony Orchestra.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

## 'Action in Arabia'

with George Sanders, Virginia Bruce  
RKO 75 Mins.  
THIS MELODRAMA OF INTRIGUE DESERVES ATTENTION PRIMARILY FOR ITS ABUNDANCE OF ACTION.

"Action in Arabia" certainly lives up to its title. This tale of Nazi intrigue among the sand dunes is a whirlwind affair that makes no pretense at plausibility. Audiences that relish blood-and-thunder melodrama will not be disappointed much. The film is also not a bad attraction for admirers of George Sanders, who is starred in another of those familiar roles which call for suaveness and that savoir faire of the man of the world.

Sanders plays an American foreign correspondent who dallies in Damascus on his way back to the United States to run down a plot by Nazi agents to stir up the Arab tribes against the Allies. How Sanders achieves his goal is quite tortuous and complicated—so complicated in fact that outlining the plot would consume more space than the film deserves. Suffice it to say that Sanders, with the help of Virginia Bruce, a French girl; Gene Lockhart, her pop, and Robert Armstrong, an attache of the American consulate, succeeds in crossing up the villains, who are routed in a furious battle with the Arab tribesmen. His preoccupation with the villains doesn't prevent Sanders from having a romantic fling with Miss Bruce.

The story has been told with extensive use of library shots. Philip MacDonald and Herbert Biberman used familiar ingredients in compounding their screenplay, which was directed by Leonide Moguy solely with an eye to action. Maurice Geraghty gave the yarn a perfunctory production.

Sanders plays the title role in very much the way he did the Falcon. Miss Bruce does the best she can with a routine role. Gene Lockhart is the best of the supporting players. Also to be noted is Armstrong. Lenore Aubert appears as the daughter of H. B. Warner, desert chieftain. Alan Napier, Andre' Charlot and Marcel Dalio are the chief villains.

CAST: George Sanders, Virginia Bruce, Lenore Aubert, Gene Lockhart, Robert Armstrong, H. B. Warner, Alan Napier, Andre' Charlot, Marcel Dalio, Robert Andersen, Jamiel Hasson, John Hamilton, Rafael Storm, Mike Ansara.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

## 'Sing a Jingle'

with Allan Jones, June Vincent  
Universal 62 Mins.  
MUSICAL COMEDY IS PLEASANT LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT DEIGNED TO MEET NEEDS OF FAMILY TRADE.

Here is another of Universal's modest melanges of music, comedy and romance concocted for the family trade. The film carries enough entertainment and is unfurled swiftly enough to make one forgive the triteness of the plot.

The main attraction in this production is Allan Jones, who is given plenty of opportunity to exercise his fine voice. He delivers his singing assignment in a manner that will win much attention from the femmes. His romantic vis-a-vis is June Vincent, who is considerably overshadowed by the vibrant personality of Jones.

Jones is a popular radio singer who, when he is rejected for Army service, decided to do his bit by working incognito in a defense plant in a small town. The boss (Samuel S. Hinds) takes a shine to Jones, who repays the compliment by falling in love with his daughter (Miss Vincent). Complications arise when a rival (Edward Norris), a no-good guy, starts checking up on Jones with the idea of breaking up his romance with the boss's daughter. The villain almost succeeds in his purpose. It takes a bit of explaining on Jones' part before everything is straightened out.

As any one with a nickel's worth of brains is bound to suspect as soon as Jones makes his decision to toll in a defense factory for the duration, a show is put on by the boss to help the war effort in his community. Jones' manly tones are the main lure and the show proves a huge success.

Jones easily dominates the film. Also a standout is Gus Schilling, who supplies the comedy relief with the assistance of Betty Kean.

Producer-Director Edward C. Lilley keeps things moving snappily. Four writers, John Grey, Eugene Conrad, Lee Sands and Fred Rath, were needed to knock out the screenplay.

CAST: Allan Jones, June Vincent, Edward Norris, Gus Schilling, Betty Kean, Samuel S. Hinds, Jerome Cowan, Joan Castle, Dicky Love, Vivian Austin, Lorin Raker, William Newell.

DIRECTION, Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.



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## Hays Delivers Annual Report

(Continued from Page 3)

disposal for the effort of war. Hidden reserves of moral energy and physical power remain available. They will be summoned and expended until the day of victory is attained. But war will not exhaust the vitality that springs from freedom. Nor will victory render us supine. We shall be freshly resolved and newly energetic for the enduring tasks of peace."

Mr. Hays said that the industry had succeeded, and succeeded notably, during the past twelve months in maintaining a balance of information, education, inspiration and entertainment. Coming films, he predicted, would meet every problem of morale, recreation and information.

"And this is no easy achievement," he added, "in view of the shortage of manpower, the absence of many stars who have gone into the services, and the shortage of skilled workers from script writers to cameramen."

"It is quite understandable," he said, speaking of the soldier's taste in movies, "that men who daily face the stern realities of war do not need or want films which dramatize the burning heat, the freezing cold and the muck in which they face illness, injury and death. It is easy to see why they prefer entertainment that brings laughter, music and fun, memories of home and the kind of life for which they are fighting. There are no better morale builders than films of this character."

"On the other hand, the motion picture screen would fail and fail lamentably if it did not alert the vast millions at home to the conditions under which we must fight this war, the sacrifices necessary to win it and the tasks still before us."

### RKO Retitles Film

The RKO juve delinquency film formerly titled "Are These Our Children?" will soon be released as "The Dangerous Age." It's a story of modern youth and its problems.

### Say FPCC Dickers for Newfoundland House

It is reported unofficially that Famous Players is concluding a deal for the operation of the theatre under construction at St. John's, Newfoundland, the Cinema. The Cinema will cost \$200,000 and seat 1,000. Population is 31,000.

## Another Blast

(Continued from Page 4)

bishops, which has approved of 80 per cent of all films coming out of Hollywood in the last few years according to the Legion's rigid standards. There is the National Board of Review.

Added to these are provincial and civil censors who have their own rules about films and advertising.

The product of the motion picture industry is examined more closely officially and unofficially than that of any other.

### There Are Plenty More

Not the least active as guardians of the motion picture are the women's clubs, most of which have motion picture convenors. They are the regular issuers of protests and condemnation. Sometimes it seems that their units work in concert when issuing protests. Their utterances in themselves are expressions of dissatisfaction with government-appointed authorities over the motion picture.

And they seem completely preoccupied with the screen and not other mediums of public expression which have neither inside nor outside control. Particularly radio. Writing about radio horror shows in the New York Times, John K. Hutchins, pointing out that they are "closer to the abattoir than the laboratory," says:

"There the means of taking off is the all-important thing, and the more violently it is accomplished the happier, apparently, are the listeners, safe at home in their living rooms. Smothering, stabbing, garrotting and slow poison are the favorite devices, although bludgeoning and drowning are also esteemed, and the simple pistol shot is not entirely scorned. Even those who look in askance at radio crime have to admit that a certain ingenuity prevails in these massacres."

We are not blowing the whistle and pounding the pavement about radio. Just making comparisons. Would the mayor of Montreal appoint monitors in every home? It doesn't take money to absorb all that and no regulations prevent children from listening.

### Some Questions

How many of these women's organizations have radio convenors? How many have newspaper convenors? How many have magazine convenors? How many resolutions of protest about poisoning the juvenile mind have they issued in those directions?

Do they condemn the canning industry because some executive has misbehaved publicly or because the latest batch of tinned salmon isn't up to par? Do they have convenors to check bread for vitamins for the sake of the physical health of children? There are so many avenues, beside that of motion pictures, which might deserve their attention. Perhaps there are authorities to check all that. But we are also checked—and more closely. So why worry about us so much?

Do these women's organizations pass resolutions of praise when the screen comes through with a "Snow White," "My Friend Flicka," "Mrs. Miniver" or a "Madame Curie"? Do they try to get as many people to see such pictures as should? The highest authorities, among them President Roosevelt, have agreed that the movies are doing a great job of morale maintenance. Is the boosting in proportion to the knocking?

How many resolutions of praise about the war effort of the motion picture industry have been passed? The motion picture industry provides free almost every form of assistance to the war effort. As an industry our war effort stands out. Why not say something about that?

If the critics want to be regarded as impartial, let them be fair. As for what they consider to be bad movies, let them exhaust their local authorities first, then try elsewhere before rushing into print.

And this is not to say that movies are all that they should be.

## Red Cross Drive Tops Objective

Results of the Red Cross campaign showed a considerable increase in total public donations and industry donations in all the provinces with the exception of Ontario, according to the final report of provincial chairmen. The contributions of exchanges, theatres and affiliated organizations in Toronto was just a little better than last year. The objective of \$10,000,000 has been exceeded by more than a million dollars.

A group of girls organized by the Special Events committee in Montreal collected \$7,800 in the city theatres. Montreal was the only Canadian city where theatres took collections directly from the patrons.

Film exchange employees in Manitoba increased their previous total by \$240 and there was also an increase of \$230 from theatre employers and employees.

Reports from Vancouver, Saint John, Halifax and Calgary indicate that all the members of the industry in these places served on the local committees and gave valuable assistance in the campaign.

### General Managers Guests of Navy

The general managers of Canadian exchanges were the guests of the Royal Canadian Navy one day last week. They were shown how training films are used, inspected a mine sweeper and enjoyed lunch on the HMCS York.

